herpy

SLANGEN

Western Terrestrial Garter Snake

Thamnophis elegans

Thamnophis elegans is a slender, diurnal garter snake from western North America, where it lives from the Pacific coast to the mountains and open plains, usually not far from water. It is hardy and can live on thawed mice, but it slips out through the smallest gap and needs a completely secure enclosure. Its care is based on the closely related *Thamnophis sirtalis*.

Familie: Colubridae

KERNGEGEVENS

HET DIER

Volwassen grootte	**50-105 cm** totale lengte incl. staart
Levensduur	**6-10 jaar**
Actief	**Overdag**
Levenswijze	**Bodembewonend en semi-aquatisch**
Leefgebied	**Moerasgebied en gematigd bos en grasland**
Moeilijkheidsgraad	**Beginner**

VERZORGING

Min. terrarium	**100 × 50 × 50 cm** L × B × H voor 1 volwassen dier
Temperatuur overdag	**23-27 °C**
Zonneplek	**29-32 °C**
Temperatuur 's nachts	**18-22 °C**
Luchtvochtigheid	**35-60%**
Water	**Waterbak**
UVB	**Aanbevolen** Fergusonzone 2
Winterrust	**8-15 °C** 8-16 weken
Voeding	**Gewervelde dieren en wormen/slakken**
Gehouden	**Solitair of in groepen**

KWEEK

Voortplanting	**Levendbarend**
Geslachtsrijp	**18-30 maanden**
Worpgrootte	**8-12 jongen**
Legsels per jaar	**1**
Draagtijd	**60-90 dagen**

BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

CITES	**Niet opgenomen**
EU-bijlage	**Niet opgenomen**
IUCN	**Niet bedreigd (LC)**

Verzorging in het kort

HET TERRARIUM	Little is known about the care of *Thamnophis elegans* in captivity.
TEMPERATUUR	There must be a clear heat gradient. The basking spot should be 29-32 °C measured at the surface, the cool end 23-27 °C and the night 18-22 °C. The heat source is switched off at night.
LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN WATER	Humidity should be 35-60 %, highest at the cool end and at night. The enclosure should not be wet, because constant dampness causes blisters on the belly.
VERLICHTING EN UVB	The species is diurnal and thrives in strong daylight. UVB is not strictly necessary but is recommended and often makes the snake more active.
VOEDING	In the wild, *Thamnophis elegans* eats slugs, earthworms, salamanders, frogs and tadpoles, leeches, fish, lizards and small mammals.
GEDRAG EN OMGANG	*Thamnophis elegans* is quick and alert and usually becomes calm if handled regularly from a young age. Let new animals settle in for about two weeks, and begin handling them only once they are feeding steadily.
NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED	Canada, Mexico en Verenigde Staten.